REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-9 and 11 are now pending. Claims 1, 6 and 9 have been amended and claims 2, 7 and 10 have been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Hower, U.S. Patent No. 5,467,434. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Hower discloses a system in which print setting information stored in a client PC by a user is compared with profiles of a plurality of printers registered in a server and printers suitable to the print setting information are identified. However, Hower neither discloses nor suggests the structural features of the amended claim 1, 6 and 9.

Specifically and first of all, according to Hower, print setting information (i.e. a job ticket) is stored, not in the server, but in the client PCs which correspond to terminals of the present invention. See Fig. 2 and col. 4, lines 2-7 of Hower. Thus, Hower fails to disclose the claimed "a print setting information storage section which is provided in the server and which stores therein print setting information that is set by input."

Secondly, Hower does not disclose that client PC displays a message for confirming printing on the basis of the print setting and an input for receiving confirmation from the user concerning whether or not the user agrees with the print setting information. Figs. 4 and 5 of Hower merely show a screen for displaying the job ticket stored in the client PC. Further, Fig. 8 of Hower does not show a screen displayed on the client PC but a flowchart showing a procedure for comparing the print setting information with the profiles of the printers. See col. 5, lines 59-62 of Hower. Thus Hower further fails to disclose the claimed confirmation message presentation section.

Thirdly, because Hower does not teach the structural features of the present invention as described above, as a matter of course, Hower further fails to disclose that the acquired print setting information stored in the server is reset when the user does not accept or disagrees with

the confirmation message. As a result, (i) a print job is created based on the acquired print setting information when the user agrees with the confirmation message while (ii) another print job is created based on the reset print setting information when the user does not agree with the confirmation message. Thus Hower further fails to disclose the claimed resetting section.

Because, for the reasons presented above, Hower fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter of amended claim 1, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 6 and 9 have been amended to recite features similar to claim 1 and are therefore allowable over Hower for reasons similar to those presented above. The remaining claims depend from claims 1, 6, and 9 and are therefore allowable at least based on their respective dependencies.
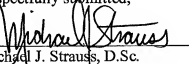
In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. **325772035300**.

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